

JAPAN HAS VIGILANT EYE ON FOREIGNERS WITHIN HER EMPIRE

Strangers Are 'Card Indexed' From Moment of Arrival Until Departure, but Are Treated Courteously, Says Seibold

RESENTMENT ON RACE ISSUE FANNED IN VERNACULAR PRESS

While Japanese Are Genuinely Polite They Are Cautious in Dealing With Visitors—Native Intermediaries Needed in Business Deals

JAPAN'S attitude toward foreigners within her borders and other characteristic features are discussed in the following article by a NEW YORK HERALD staff correspondent. It is the nineteenth of a series based on a careful study of Far Eastern conditions bearing on the armament and transpacific problems that will be taken up in Washington November 11.

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OSAKA, Japan, Sept. 30.—No people in the world can be more charming or quite as unaffectedly hospitable to foreigners as the subjects of the Mikado. The casual visitor from the United States, or any of the European countries, receives the fullest opportunity to study and enjoy the many admirable qualities of the Japanese themselves, visit and feast his eyes upon scenic glories, admire the magnificent temples and shrines and marvel at the excellence of the arts.

In doing so he is not actually obstructed in any way as long as he displays appreciation, does not meddle in politics of the country and pays his way. He soon learns that a smile goes a long way with the Japanese, who to strangers are rather cautious and inclined to be a trifle austere. But if you ask a foreigner who has been in the country for months for his outstanding impression he will probably reply that it is that the Japanese, while seeming to be frank and cordial, are really suspicious of the stranger and a trifle more inquisitive regarding his movements in the kingdom than is the case in other countries.

If you put the same question to a foreigner who has been in business in Japan for some time he will proceed to warn you that the Japanese are really a dissembling and disingenuous lot, despite their simulation of friendship and good will. He will advise you to put the acid test on everything that you buy in the shops, to lock your trunks and bags and to discount most of the statements made by Japanese. He will appraise the Mikado's subjects as being "deceitful," "evasive," "tricky," "given to duplicity," "of questionable business ethics," and at heart really unfriendly to foreigners in general, and especially Americans.

Visitors Cautioned Not to Trust Secrets to the Mails or Cables

He will warn you against entrusting to the mails letters that discuss Japanese affairs or that contain valuable trade secrets. He will, furthermore, advise you to be "very careful in using the cables," for the reason that both mails and telegrams are likely to find their way into the censor's office before being either forwarded or "lost." This sort of advice, coming from persons who should be in position to know what they are talking about, is certain to make an unfavorable impression on the mind of a newcomer, even if his experience has been as pleasant and free from annoyance as my own. It encourages a state of mind that makes for suspicion of a people who are not to be outdone in effusive politeness and acts of genuine courtesy and unaffected hospitality.

The average Japanese encountered in Yokohama, Tokyo, Kobe, Osaka, Nara, Nikko or in most of the small towns of the interior is quite as indulgent of a stranger as those of any other country in the world. He will try to interpret your spoken inquiries and decipher the meaning of the signs with which you invariably accompany them. If he cannot quite make out what you want to know he will call upon the assistance of everybody in hearing to help out.

A Passion for Education.

Incidentally, an American or Englishman is likely to meet with greater success in making himself understood than would a Japanese subject in the United States or England for the very excellent reason that probably ten per cent. of the Mikado's subjects have studied English in the schools, in the curriculums of which it is the most popular foreign language.

The passion of the Japanese for education is pretty clearly reflected in the schools that compel the study of at least one foreign language. Most of the ricksha men and shopkeepers in the larger towns, the hotel clerks, railway guards and porters, clerks and stenographers and telephone operators possess a pretty fair working knowledge of English, to say nothing of the students of the higher school branches. All of these people are genuinely polite. Once in a while you run against a dour Japanese who is not, and some of the newspapers in Tokyo and Kobe frankly express their disgust of Americans and indulge in unfriendly comments. As one or two of these newspapers have a circulation approximating a million copies, and as the Japanese are great readers of newspapers the influence of some of the Journals, which are even more sensational than those in the States, is far reaching and very great.

Wild Reports Aimed at U. S.

During the discussion of the forthcoming conference on the limitation of armaments at Washington many of the Tokyo, Osaka and Kobe newspapers printed the wildest sort of reports and editorial comment unfriendly to the United States. These periodicals warned the Japanese people that the real motive of the United States was to humiliate and isolate Japan; that the American Government was envious of the very great progress of the Japanese people; that America was after the trade of the Orient; that it disliked the Japanese because they were industrious and frugal and were better workmen than the members of the trades unions who objected to their presence in America; and that finally America wanted to take from the Japanese their religion and destroy their respect for their Emperor because he is the direct descendant of the gods.

Few of the Japanese newspapers, and, in fact, citizens of the country, attempt to conceal their chagrin and

raised by the Japanese Government to any interference with "accomplished facts" in the Far East—China, Shanghai, Siberia, Yap. Diplomatic observers do not entertain any doubt that the people of the country are behind their Government in this respect. There is no greater offence in the minds of the Japanese generally than to suggest that Japan be deprived of these advantages on the Asiatic mainland or in the Pacific which her people sincerely believe are "accomplished facts."

The line of differentiation is drawn at the arms limitation project, because about one-half of the newspapers and probably a great majority of the people are in favor of a reduction of armaments as a matter of economic expediency, and the impression generally prevailed at Tokyo in early September that Japan would coincide with the universal policy which is expected to be decided at Washington, and for the first time fall into line with other nations.

Know They Are Distracted.

One of the surprising features of Japanese psychology is that most of the leading men of the empire and the important merchants know that their countrymen as a whole are delirious. The unpopularity of Japanese as immigrants in the United States, Canada and Australia, and the positive hatred of the Chinese and Koreans for their powerful neighbor have not permitted any doubt of it.

The Marquis Satonji, who is one of the most powerful of the "Elder Statesmen" in the Genro, started his countrymen on his return to Tokyo from the Paris Peace Conference two years ago by declaring the fact that "Japan had become a general object of distrust and misunderstanding; a fact not only deeply injurious to Japan but very unfortunate to the foreign nations, whose policy in the Far East is influenced thereby." The Marquis expressed the opinion that it was "the duty of the nation to inspire a spirit of confidence and good will among its friends abroad."

Baron Ishii, in admitting the accuracy of the Marquis' statement, attributed it to "the seeds of ill will insidiously planted by German propaganda." The Marquis Okuma expressed the opinion, however, that the undeniable prejudice developing among Americans was "chiefly due to jealousy of Japan's marvellous progress and industry." He added that the Japanese themselves were to some extent responsible, because they "may have waxed selfish and conceited as the result of their successes."

The average Japanese business man, who submerges you in tea and is ostentatiously eager to serve you, does not openly subscribe to any one of these views. On the contrary, he hastens to assure you that "the Japanese people love the Americans" and regret that there should be any misunderstanding between them. He draws upon a rather impressive knowledge of history to show that the Japanese have always regarded the American people as their mentors in industrial progress, and cites innumerable instances to show that American models have figured more extensively in the growth of the empire than those of any other nation.

Attitudes Fail to Harmonize.

The views and experiences of Americans, and to some extent Canadian and British citizens, with the Japanese are not harmonious with the Japanese attitude and assurances, and if one wants to obtain a view that is both comprehensive and unfavorable, he should ask a Chinese or Korean what he thinks of the Japanese. Either or both will exceed in vigor and vituperation the unfavorable opinion of the American or Canadian.

In view of the fact that the Chinese and Koreans regard themselves as the victims of Japanese autocracy and militarism, it is quite natural that the nationals of those countries do not find anything in the Japanese character to admire. For very obvious reasons I have attached a good deal more importance to the estimates of the American business men, and I regret to say that with very few exceptions the opinions regarding Japanese business ethics were not what might perhaps be desired.

An American business man who has been dealing with the Japanese for ten or twenty years attempted to size up the situation by saying that "You've got to watch them all the time—in politics, in diplomacy, in business. They are hard bargainers and will take advantage of you at every turn unless you keep your eyes open. As far as the Government is concerned, it has its eyes on you all the time, no matter how friendly the public men of the country may appear to be in their speeches. Japan has the most far-reaching system of espionage of any country in the world. You are card-indexed from the moment you step ashore until you leave."

I presume that this man and others who provided testimony to the same effect had very good reason to justify pessimism. As far as my personal experience went, I may or may not have been followed by the Japanese slanders. I know that they didn't rifle my letters because I didn't write any. The

few cables I sent were of a purely personal character.

With the admonition of the more experienced in mind I mentally checked up the incidents connected with my entry, stay and departure. I was warned in the ship coming from Vancouver to destroy any written matter that might relate to Japanese affairs. I was compelled to fill out a police card telling who I was, my profession, where I was going, how long I was going to stay and where I was going after leaving Japan.

Prying Into Visitor's Plan.

The immigration official at Yokohama seemed to be much more concerned as to my profession than in any other feature of my coming. He wanted to know what paper I was going to write for, what officials I was going to see, what I was going to do. I told him I didn't know and couldn't give him any definite information about anything, but asked his advice and he gave it to me—and I forgot it.

At the Grand Hotel in Yokohama I found another police card to fill out, with an ample blank in which to write out any remarks I desired to make about my profession. At the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo, a hotel at Kobe, one at Moji in Japan, and in the Chosen Hotel at Seoul there were more cards to fill out.

At Moji—Shimonoseki, where I boarded the packet for Fusan, in Korea—a police agent met me and was greatly interested in my "profession," who I expected to see in Korea, &c. When I reached Fusan the police agent met me there and said he knew I was coming. Like his associate on the Japanese side, he was greatly concerned over my profession and wanted to know what I was going to write.

The police agent at Seoul provided proof that the telegraph service between Fusan and the Korean capital was in good working order by telling me that he had been advised of my coming. I took the precaution, which every American should do, of calling on the Japanese Foreign Office at Tokyo, the Governor-General of Korea, on Mr. Bell, the American Consul at Fusan, and on Mr. Miller, the American Consul at Seoul, to my respect.

The Japanese officials were most courteous, if politely inquisitive, and the American representatives characteristically helpful. During all the weeks I spent in the Mikado's kingdom I was not molested in the slightest degree. But I could not repress the thought that for a friendly nation the Japanese Government is unusually solicitous for the personal welfare of the nationals of other countries that visit the Flowery Kingdom.

The testimony of Americans engaged in business in Japan is of much more value, therefore, than mine, and I have given it above.

In order to get the Japanese viewpoint I appealed to one of the leading business men of Yokohama. He would not admit that "there is any feeling between the American and Japanese people, certainly not on the part of

Japan and the Throne.

JAPAN'S Emperor and the Crown Prince are the main subjects treated in Mr. Seibold's next article, to be published tomorrow. The article will show ancient customs are being shattered.

the Japanese." He expressed the opinion that "if there is any misunderstanding between them it is because foreigners in Japan do not understand our ways and do not make any effort to accommodate themselves to customs of the country."

An Estimate of Americans.

When I asked him to elucidate, he said: "Ninety per cent. of the Americans who come to Japan have no intention of becoming citizens or residing permanently among us. They are here to make money. When they have made it they return to their own country. Most of them hold themselves aloof, restrict their relations with our people to business affairs and try to impose their business methods on us instead of accepting ours. A great many Japanese people are, of course, very much displeased at the attitude of the people in America to the Japanese who take up their residence in that country. They naturally attribute it to the influence which trade unions wield in American politics."

"But I think the feature of the American attitude that most deeply grieves our people is the tendency of the Americans to place us on the same plane as the negro in your Southern States, or the Chinese. However, that cannot be helped and I do not see any cure for it. As far as the limitation of immigration goes, that, I think, can be adjusted by a frank and impartial discussion between the two countries. Only a small percentage of the Japanese people desire to live anywhere else, for the same reason that only a small percentage of Americans desire to live outside of their own country."

"It is a matter of very great regret, of course, to the Japanese people, who are very proud of their history and progress, that the great American people should be less generous and hospitable to the Japanese people than the Japanese people are to Americans who come to do business with or visit them. I hope that the Washington conference will at least result in a better understanding between them in this respect."

Have to Take in Japanese.

A source of general complaint among foreign business men is that it is practically impossible to do business in Japan without the cooperation of Japanese firms engaged in the same business. Foreigners not only are prevented from owning land in the country, but they are not encouraged to initiate business ventures independent of Japanese influences, which are held to be very great. Most of the foreign business of any magnitude, I am in-

GERMANY MAY OPEN PRICE SLASHING WAR

Continued from First Page.

chants and owners of land upon which there are buildings. Each branch of the organization will elect a representative to a central council, which on its own initiative is to negotiate the credits for the Government.

The interest and amortization to then be divided according to wealth among the society's members, who will be assessed in dollars. If the member possesses foreign exchange he must pay in that. If not he must pay the equivalent in marks.

Members having more foreign exchange than is needed to pay their share will be allowed to pay it into the society's treasury, which will redeem it at the current equivalent. The receipts of the Credit Society for the payment of assessments will become legal tender for the payment of taxes.

Such a credit enterprise is unparalleled in economic history, and it is felt to represent the final effort which German economic leaders are willing to make to fulfill the treaty of Versailles. They will undertake it, however, only on the condition that industry be represented in the Government by admission of the Volkspartei (People's party) in the coalition and that the State's budget be made to balance.

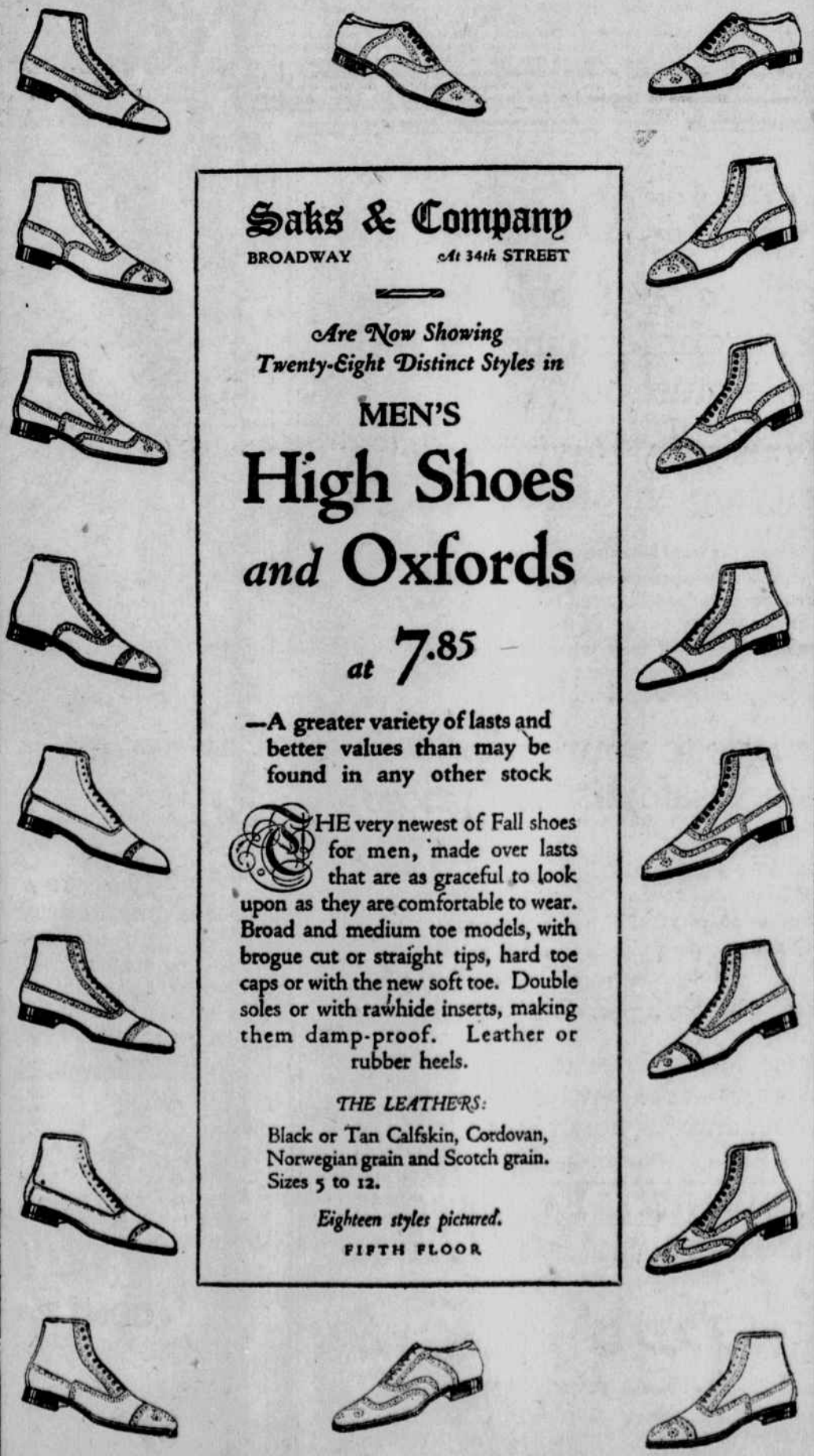
The fulfillment of the first of these conditions rests with the political leaders, but if the Upper Silesian verdict of the League of Nations council had not upset all political calculations the extension of the coalition probably would have been a fact by now. As to balancing the budget, new tax measures are already foreseen which will go far toward making this possible. An increase in the turnover tax to 2½ per cent., which was approved a few days ago by the National Economic Parliament, is estimated, will bring in 30,000,000,000 marks instead of 7,000,000,000 as heretofore.

24 HURT IN CAIRO RIOTING.

CAIRO, Egypt, Oct. 15.—Rioting followed the arrival here by steamship Friday of Said Ziaoui Pasha, former Minister of Justice and one of the Nationalist leaders. Twenty-four persons were wounded. The authorities have not permitted Ziaoui to land.

formed, is conducted through Japanese firms, or at least through Japanese combinations that act as the direct representatives of foreign concerns, particularly in the case of Government contracts.

This method, of course, is not unusual in trade circles of other countries; but foreign business men declare that it prevails more generally in the Mikado's kingdom than anywhere else. It is practically impossible, they say, to secure consideration of a business proposal of any magnitude except through a Japanese intermediary, even in cases where there is no competition.



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